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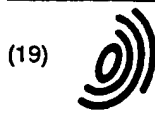
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WO 97/02980 (30.01.1997 Gazette 1997/06)

(54) FLEXIBLE VESSELS FOR TRANSPORTING FLUENT CARGOES

DEHNBARE BEHÄLTER ZUM TRANSPORT VON FLÜSSIGEN LADUNGEN

CONTENEURS SOUPLES SERVANT A TRANSPORTER DES CHARGEMENTS DE MATIERES
COULANTES

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NL PT SE

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(56) References cited:
FR-A- 2 210 180 FR-A- 2 377 931
GB-A- 2 181 996 US-A- 2 682 751
US-A- 3 289 721 US-A- 3 983 830

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EP 0 832 032 B1

CLAIMS:

1. Apparatus for transporting fluent cargo through
5 liquid comprising one or more units arranged substantially in
linear alignment, wherein at least one said unit comprises two
or more flexible containers close coupled side by side.
2. Apparatus according to claim 1, wherein in use,
10 adjacent facing sides of respective containers of said at
least one unit are substantially parallel along at least part
of their length.
3. Apparatus according to claim 1 or 2, wherein no two
15 consecutive linearly aligned units comprise a single flexible
container.
4. Apparatus according to any preceding claim, wherein
each container has angled, front and rear end sections.
20
5. Apparatus according to any preceding claim, wherein
each container is parallel sided.
6. Apparatus according to any preceding claim, wherein
25 the container is diamond-shaped or hexagonal.
7. Apparatus according to any preceding claim, wherein
the containers are connected at their broadest extent.
- 30 8. Apparatus according to any preceding claim, wherein
the apparatus comprises alternating sequential units of one
and two containers.
9. Apparatus according to any preceding claim, wherein
35 the apparatus comprises three units of one container and two
units of two containers.

- 9 -

10. Apparatus substantially as hereinbefore described with reference to the accompanying drawings.

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FIG. 1

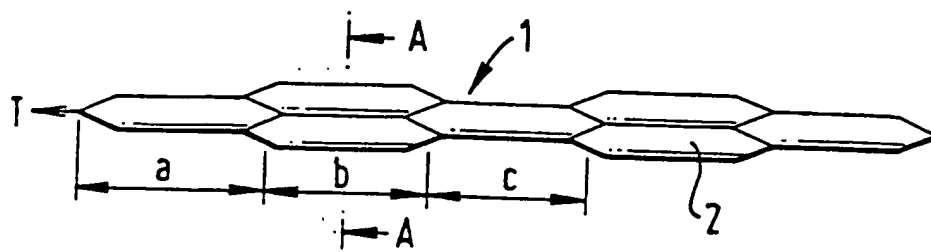


FIG. 2

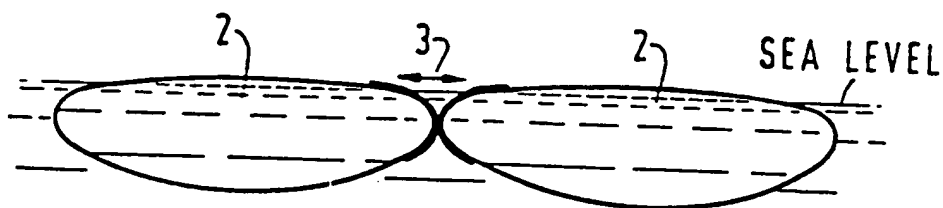


FIG. 3

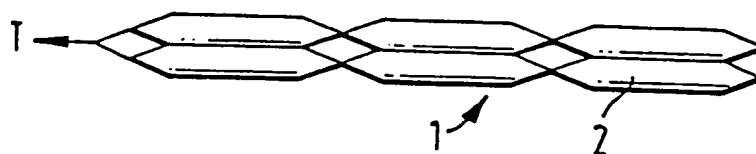


FIG. 4

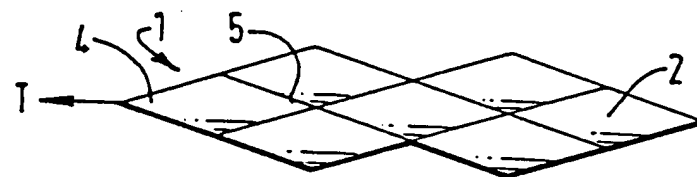


FIG. 5

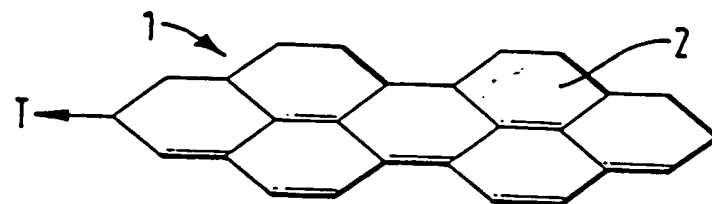
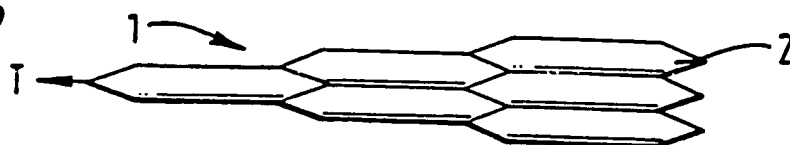


FIG. 6



SUBSTITUTE SHEET (RULE 26)

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

In national Application No
PCT/GB 96/01634

A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER
IPC 6 B63B35/28

According to International Patent Classification (IPC) or to both national classification and IPC

B. FIELDS SEARCHED

Minimum documentation searched (classification system followed by classification symbols)
IPC 6 B63B B65D

Documentation searched other than minimum documentation to the extent that such documents are included in the fields searched

Electronic data base consulted during the international search (name of data base and, where practical, search terms used)

C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category *	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
X Y	FR,A,2 210 180 (GRIHANGNE) 5 July 1974 see page 3, line 24 - page 4, line 2; figures 1,2 ---	1,2,10 3-7
X	FR,A,2 377 931 (LEDUN) 18 August 1978 see the whole document ---	1,2
Y	US,A,3 983 830 (MORGAN) 5 October 1976 see figures 1-6 ---	3,7
Y	US,A,3 289 721 (BENSON) 6 December 1966 see figures 1,2 ---	4,5
Y	GB,A,2 181 996 (YANG) 7 May 1987 see figures 1-2,1-3 ---	6
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Date of the actual completion of the international search

24 October 1996

Date of mailing of the international search report

29.10.96

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INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International Application No
PCT/GB 96/01634

C.(Continuation) DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT		
Category *	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
A	US,A,2 682 751 (BOCK) 6 July 1954 see figures 11,12 -----	1-3,5, 7-9

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INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

Information on patent family members

International Application No

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FR-A-2377931	18-08-78	NONE	
US-A-3983830	05-10-76	NONE	
US-A-3289721	06-12-66	NONE	
GB-A-2181996	07-05-87	US-A- 4688505	25-08-87
US-A-2682751	06-07-54	NONE	